

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed September 11, 2007, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-21 and 23-51 were pending; indicated that claims 1-8, 10, 11, 20, 25, 26, 31, 34, 35, 50 and 51 are withdrawn from consideration; rejected claims 9, 12, 19 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,502,917) in view of Jones (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0146267); rejected claims 13, 14, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinada et al. as modified by Jones in view of Miyazawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,250,750); and allowed claims 15, 16, 23, 24, 27-30, 32, 33 and 36-49. Claim 12 is cancelled herein. The rejections are traversed below.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 9, 12, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,502,917) in view of Jones (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0146267).

Claim 9 as amended herein recites that "the locking unit includes a locking projection disposed at a sidewall of the carriage body and a hook member hinged on the latch and selectively hooked into the locking projection, the locking unit having a release handle connected to the hook member so as to pivot the hook member in an unlocking direction" (last four lines). Claim 19 is similarly amended. The Applicant respectfully submits that the cited art fails to teach these features.

Jones discusses a "print carriage 119 includ[ing] a cartridge latching system that consistently and accurately positions the print cartridges 11 relative to an orthogonal coordinate system" (paragraph [0018]). The print cartridge "includes two chutes 131 that each receive, hold, and align an ink jet print cartridge 11" (paragraph [0022], of Jones). "Each chute includes a rear wall 135 that comprises for example a portion of the base 126, a left side wall 133 that extends from the rear wall 135, and a right side wall 134 that extends from the rear wall 135 and is generally parallel to the left side wall 133" (*id.*). "Latch hooks 155 are located at the ends of the second leg 151b for engaging latch tabs 157 disposed at the front of the side walls 133, 134" (paragraph [0028], of Jones).

Based on the discussion on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, it appears that the Examiner is equating the "hook member" recited in claim 9 with the "latch hooks 155" described in Jones. Amended claim 9 further recites that the locking unit has "a release handle connected

to the hook member so as to pivot the hook member in an unlocking direction" (last two lines). Based on Fig. 4 of Jones and the associated discussion thereof, it appears that the latch hooks are not connected to any such release handle. The Applicant also finds nothing in Shinada et al. that teaches these features. Thus, Shinada et al. and Jones, both individually and in combination, fail to teach the features of amended claim 9.

Claims 12 and 21 depend from claims 9 and 19, respectively, and add further features thereto. Thus, the arguments above with respect to claim 9 also apply to these claims.

For at least the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

Claims 13, 14, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinada et al. as modified by Jones in view of Miyazawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,250,750).

Claims 13, 14, 17 and 18 depend from claim 9 and add further features thereto. Nothing is cited or found in Miyazawa et al. that overcomes the deficiencies of Shinada et al. and Jones discussed above with respect to claim 9. Thus, the arguments above with respect to claim 9 also apply to these claims.

For at least the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

Summary

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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